

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH El Mes de la Herencia Hispana September 15 – October 15

The Civil Rights Division is recognizing Hispanic Heritage Month throughout the month of October.



Employee Spotlight



Melanie Gordon

Region 4 District 49 Administration–Arlington
TDOT Operations District Specialist

She loves to be active outdoors, whether that's shooting some hoops or going on a walk.; and reading both Christian and mystery books.

Joined TDOT June 2019

Tell us about a moment in Hispanic History that influenced or shaped your career/life?

The Mendez vs. Westminster case played a key role in making school segregation illegal.

Who within or outside TDOT has been influential in your career? Are they a mentor today?

Jan Berry, she was an engineer at the Army Corp and encouraged me that women can be engineers too! She helped me find programs to be a part of and introduced me to Dr. Stephanie Ivey, who is a Transportation professor at the University of Memphis and has contributed a lot to the research field.

Which of the TDOT Values (Stewardship, Integrity, Safety, Consistency, Development, Innovation, Collaboration & Family) that are listed within the Strategic Plan, resonates with you and with diversity? State why?

I'm grateful that Safety and Family are core values to TDOT. Both values show intentionality and unity for all the employees.

Why is it important to recognize Hispanic Heritage Month, especially in 2021?

It is important to celebrate Hispanic Heritage month because we need to be reminded that we live in a very unique and diverse country that welcomes in different cultures from all over the world. We can take this opportunity to be educated and appreciate the differences in our cultures.